

Don't be fooled. Proposition 66 won't protect children or save tax money. It creates a new legal loophole for convicted criminals that will cost taxpayers millions of dollars and flood our streets with thousands of dangerous felons, including rapists, child molesters and murderers. That's why Proposition 66 is strongly opposed by every major public safety, taxpayer and child protection group in California, including:

- California Police Chiefs Association
- California District Attorneys Association
- Prevent Child Abuse California
- National Tax Limitation Committee
- California Sexual Assault Investigators Association
- California State Sheriffs' Association
- Mothers Against Gang Violence
- Marc Klaas, Klaas Kids Foundation

The California District Attorneys Association estimates Proposition 66 will release as many as 26,000 convicted felons from California prisons and return them to the counties for re-sentencing, where cash-strapped jails are already overflowing. These are not petty criminals and low-level drug offenders who steal pizzas and videotapes. These are dangerous hardcore criminals with long histories of serious and violent crimes. Most will have their sentences dramatically reduced if Proposition 66 is approved, including:

- Charles Rothenberg, a man who kidnapped his six-year-old son, doused him with kerosene and lit him on fire. His criminal history includes convictions for grand larceny, burglary, attempted robbery,

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possession of a loaded firearm, arson and attempted murder. Instead of serving 25 years for his most recent crimes, Proposition 66 will release him in less than four years.

- Kenneth Parnell, the notorious child molester who kidnapped and sexually assaulted young Steven Staynor for seven years, and who recently was convicted of trying to buy a 4-year-old boy for \$500. Instead of serving 25 years to life for his crimes against children, Proposition 66 will set him free within weeks.

- Steven Matthews, a member of the Aryan Brotherhood with a violent criminal history that includes robbery, kidnapping, murder and the rape of his mother. Instead of serving 25 years to life, Proposition 66 will put him back on the street in early 2005.

If Proposition 66 passes, arson, residential burglary, attempted burglary, criminal threats, felony gang crimes and felonies like drunk driving in which innocent people are seriously hurt or killed will no longer be considered "strikes." Likewise, juvenile sex offenders will no longer receive a strike for seriously injuring an elderly or disabled person during an assault with intent to commit rape.

California's crime rate has decreased by twice the national average since voters approved "Three Strikes" in 1994, according to FBI statistics. We've had two million fewer victims, taxpayers have saved an estimated \$28.5 billion and dangerous career criminals have been taken off the street. Instead of "fine-tuning" this important public safety law, Proposition 66 destroys it.

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According to Wayne Quint, Jr., President of the California Coalition of Law Enforcement Associations: "Crime will go up and innocent people will be hurt or killed if Proposition 66 passes. This is a very dangerous initiative."

We agree.

Don't give violent criminals another loophole to get out of prison. Vote NO on Proposition 66.

Arnold Schwarzenegger
Governor of California

Bill Lockyer
Attorney General of California

Harriet Salarno
Chair, Crime Victims United of California

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